

Message Text

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46

ACTION SY-05

INFO OCT-01 AF-06 ISO-00 /012 W
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R 101105Z JAN 76
FM AMEMBASSY NOUAKCHOTT
TO SECSTATE WASHDC 4930
INFO AMEMBASSY ABIDJAN

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ABIDJAN FOR RSO

E.O. 11652: N/A

TAGS: ASEC

SUBJECT: SECURITY GUARDS FOR EMBASSY COMPOUND

REF: A. STATE 04604 B. NOUAKCHOTT 2546

1. ONE GUARD IS STATIONED AT THE MAIN ENTRANCE TO THE EMBASSY COMPOUND TWENTY-FOUR HOURS PER DAY. THIS ENTRANCE HAS TWO GATES, ONE FOR VEHICLES AND ONE FOR PEDESTRIANS, BOTH OF WHICH ARE LOCKED AT ALL TIMES. ONE GUARD CONTROLS THESE GATES.

2. THE ADDITIONAL GUARD WAS HIRED AT THE RECOMMENDATION OF THE RSO ABIDJAN AS A ROVING GUARD CONSTANTLY PATROLLING THE COMPOUND FROM 2300 TO SUNUP.

3. ACCESS TO THE COMPOUND OVER THE WALL (PARA B REFTTEL B) POSES NO PROBLEM WHATSOEVER. IT IS HOPED THAT THE ROVING GUARD WILL DETECT ANYONE OR ANYTHING SUSPICIOUS IN THE COMPOUND DURING HIDIROUNDS.

4. IF ANYTHING SUSPICIOUS IS FOUND, THE GUARD IS INSTRUCTED TO NOTIFY IMMEDIATELY ONE OF THE THREE AMERICANS LIVING ON THE COMPOUND--AMBASSADOR, DCM AND ADMINISTRATIVE OFFICER--WHO WOULD TAKE NECESSARY ACTION.

5. THE GUARDS DO NOT WORK IN COORDINATION WITH THE
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LOCAL POLICE. THE EFFECTIVENESS OF THE MUNICIPAL

POLICE FORCE IS QUESTIONABLE.

6. THE GUARDS ARE EFFECTIVE IN THAT THEY CAN ALERT THE AMERICANS IN THE COMPOUND TO ANYTHING SUSPICIOUS SO APPROPRIATE ACTION CAN BE TAKEN. ALTHOUGH THE BEST IS NONE TOO GOOD, IT'S ALL THERE IS. ALTERNATIVES IS EVEN LESS COMPETENT GUARDS OR NOTHING.

7. SINCE IMPLEMENTATION OF THE ADDITIONAL GUARD, NOTHING UNUSUAL HAS BEEN FOUND, BUT HE IS ONE ADDITIONAL DETERRENT TO ANY INFILTRATION UNTIL SUCH TIME AS THE ENTIRE PERIMETER WALL OF THE EMBASSY IS INCREASED TO A SATISFACTORY HEIGHT.HANDYSIDE

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